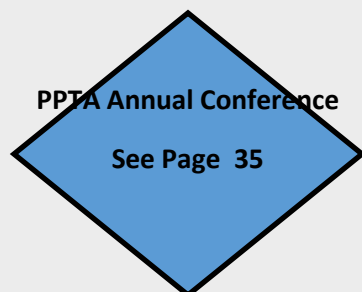


Featured in this Issue:

President's Message	
Board Briefs	4
Ethics & Social Media	16
Payment Specialist Update	20
PA PT PAC Fund Racer	43



Component News:

Districts	5
Committees	10
Special Interest Groups	12
PT/PTA Programs	25

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

By Gregory Waite, PT, DPT

Hello everyone and welcome to summer...I think...I say that because as I sit here in mid-May writing this letter it is, believe it or not, snowing! I know it's going to get warmer, at least I think it will, so we can all enjoy a summer filled with great activities with our family and friends. As always, regardless of the season or the weather conditions, we at the PPTA are working hard for our members and our patients alike. Below are just a few of the issues we've been working on over the past several months.

One of the big issues most of us deal with is the ever changing environment of Medicare reimbursement and time consuming documentation. One issue we deal with is the current decreases in reimbursement, in whatever form, and the proposed changes moving from the Fee-for-Service payment structure. At this time, at the request of CMS, the APTA, along with other stake holders, have been developing an alternative to the Fee-for-Service system. One change which will be introduced tentatively in January 2017, is a three tiered coding system for evaluation based on the severity of the patient being evaluated. The other part of this system which is currently taking shape is a severity/intensity system. This system is based on a per visit payment structure in which the severity of the patient and the intensity of treatment for each session is considered. This has not been approved by CMS as they are reviewing several possible systems for payment and documentation at the present time.

A good example of a system under review is the current pilot study on total hip and knee replacements. This system utilizes a bundled payment provided to a gate keeper for an entire group of providers involved in an episode of care. This system is presently being piloted in the Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, and Philadelphia regions as well as many sites throughout the United States. It needs to be understood the Fee-for-Service structure will be replaced by a more cost-effective, outcomes based system; it's just not decided which system at this time. We feel our Association, in conjunction with other stack holders, are uniquely qualified to develop an equitable payment system which will decrease inappropriate billing, provide governmental agencies with the outcomes based system they seek, while still allowing providers the means to remain fiscally sound.

Looking more on the State level, Highmark is a never ending problematic insurer which is growing rapidly throughout Pennsylvania. A short time ago a blast was sent out to the membership highlighting the current issues the Association is having with Highmark and what we, as an Association, are doing to combat these egregious attempts by Highmark to circumvent current law, rules and regulations. The newest attack by Highmark has come in their demands to providers to reimburse them for any services provided which surpassed an arbitrary 4 unit cap placed on treatment. This was a previously unenforced policy initiated in 2012 which was combated by the PPTA at that time.

In the end, according to an alert sent out by Highmark, they indicated they would not automatically enforce the 4 unit cap but would retain the ability to undertake retroactive review of charts to determine if surpassing the arbitrary 4 unit cap was medically necessary. The present assault on providers simply requires mass repayment to Highmark for all patient services going over the 4 unit cap without regard to medical necessity. Obviously we are addressing this and many issues concerning Highmark by working with the PID, DOH, and our legislators. We will keep you informed as this develops.

Another area the Board has undertaken is changes to the practice act. The Practice Act Work Group, or PAWG, was assigned the task of developing possible changes to the practice act and presenting their findings to the Board. Some of the topics discussed during the PAWG meetings were expanding direct access, permitting dry needling, allowing prescription of imaging such as X-rays and MRIs, as well as permitting clinical use of ultrasound imaging. The Board evaluated the report carefully and, in the end, it was determined expansion of Direct Access for Physical Therapists would be the best issue to bring forward via a direct practice act change. The other items mentioned above, as well as the issue of telehealth, are also being considered however, we are looking at developing these items separately from a regulatory perspective rather than a direct change to the practice act. This was decided as the practice act is silent on these issues and a regulatory change may be a more efficient route for these proposals.

During the Spring Board Meeting revisions to the PPTA Strategic Plan for 2016 were approved. These revisions included removing actionable items which have been completed and developing new items which will move us toward our 5 year goals. The most recent addition to the Strategic Plan were sequential steps, with timelines and accountable committees, required to complete the goal of making the above note changes to the practice act. As we move forward toward this goal, you may be called on to take some type of action; please help your Association meet this important milestone by assisting when that call comes.

As always, these are just a few of the issues and projects we have been working on over the past months and the direction we are moving for the future. If there was a particular project or issue I did not discuss, please feel free to contact me or the Chapter office directly and we will be glad to provide you with information. Thank-you for your continued support as members of the APTA and PPTA; we are here to provide progressive leadership for our members and advocate for the rights of our patients.

CHIEF DELEGATE

By Robin Dole

Greetings from YOUR Chief Delegate! Do you like country music? I like it especially in the summertime... which calls to mind the words of the Kenny Chesney song by the same name: Perfect song on the radio, Sing along 'cause it's one we know, It's a smile, it's a kiss, It's a sip of wine, it's summertime, Sweet summertime.

Country music and summertime have something in common - the House of Delegates in Nashville Tennessee! Your Pennsylvania delegation has been working hard to prepare for our time in the House this year and there are some interesting motions to consider. I hope that you were able to attend your Spring district meetings to learn more and to share your thoughts. Keep up on the action via the apta.org/livestream of the House and check out the motions on apta.org/communities!

Also keep your ears to the ground to learn more about upcoming bylaws amendments to be considered by the Chapter at our annual meeting this fall in Lancaster. I will be sending out information to help educate the membership and provide opportunities for members to connect and ask questions about the items that will come forward for consideration. We will also be working on options for virtual attendance and voting at the annual meeting - so please read the communications we will be sending to get you prepared in the event we are able to move forward with this new option!

BOARD BRIEFS

By Jane Oeffner, Secretary

The April 23, 2016 PPTA Board of Directors meeting began with a session updating the PPTA Strategic Plan, which can be found on the PPTA website. The current PPTA Strategic plan was first created in Spring of 2013 and is targeted to be accomplished by 2018. Quite a bit of progress was noted and several charges were moved into officer or committee job descriptions. The standard board reports were presented. Additionally, the Practice Act Work Group, part of the PPAC, presented its findings and recommendations to the BOD, indicating the 3 possible changes to the PA PT Practice act: Expansion of Direct Access, permitting dry needling by Physical Therapists, and to develop telehealth language. The PA PT PAC Committee has been reorganized and several new members were appointed:

Lee Ann Derr, 2 year appointment

Jeff Ostrowski, 1 year appointment

Jackie Rothschild, 1 year appointment

Joe Shaffo continues to serve as the Chair until 12/31/16 and Claire Peasley as Treasurer. Tim Schell agreed to serve as a consultant to the PAC for one year to assist in getting this newly formed committee up and running. Additional members of an ad hoc planning committee, led by Jane Oeffner, are working diligently with this group to plan an exciting, interactive PA PT PAC event at the 2016 Conference in Lancaster which will consist of a Scavenger Hunt, cocktail party and silent auction. Robin Dole, Chief Delegate, reviewed her investigation of electronic voting as a solution to attaining a quorum at PPTA Business meetings as this has been a challenge at times in the past. President Waite reported on Highmark reimbursement cuts and PPTA's actions to date, which were also explained in an email blast to the membership and web page posting. A discussion occurred regarding the drop in attendance at several district continuing education courses due to the new standard registration charge and this issue was referred to the Executive Committee for review. A Task Force was created to assess the future use/direction of the Chapter office building. The PPTA Reimbursement for Volunteers policy was amended. Lastly, the Webmaster, Jeff Rothman, was charged to investigate the feasibility of individuals independently posting research requests on www.ppta.org

DISTRICT NEWS

NORTHEAST

By Elizabeth Marine, District Director

This year is jam packed with education, networking events, Baseball Day and elections! Our April 23, 2016 MiniCSM was an amazing day with great lecturers and in a beautiful location, at the University of Scranton. The Northeast District thanks all sponsors and all who attended this special event.

NED PPTA Members and Friends Baseball Day on September 3, 2016!

If you enjoy going to the Iron Pigs (Lehigh Valley) or Rail Riders (Scranton area) then purchase your tickets early!

The NED PPTA is pre-purchasing tickets for those interested with the group rate of \$10 (what a discount!)

This is a limited time offer so don't miss out. We will pre-purchase your tickets and send you a link for payment. There will be Lehigh Valley and Scranton area ticket pick-ups this summer.

It's that easy! Visit the website to pre-order tickets today! <http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>

Spring 2016 Northeast District Monthly Meetings and Continuing Education Offerings:

(see website of information updates)

SEPTEMBER

Date: Tuesday September 13, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm

Meeting Sponsor: LCCC PTA Program

Location: Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC); 4525 Education Park Drive; Schnecksville, PA 18078

(Link for directions: http://gocougarsports.com/sports/2015/5/28/GEN_0528154401.aspx)

Presentation: TBA

Speakers: TBA

OCTOBER

Date: Tuesday October 11, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm

Meeting Sponsor: Physical Therapy at St. Luke's (outpatient)

Location: St. Luke's Hospital; Stroudsburg, PA (exact location of new hospital TBA)

Presentation: TBA

Speakers: TBA

NOVEMBER

Date: Tuesday November 8, 2016

Time: 6:30pm Networking; 7pm

Meeting Sponsor: St. Luke's Acute Rehab Center

Location: St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem Campus; Education Center; 801 Ostrum St; Bethlehem, PA 18015

Presentation: TBA

Speakers: TBA

The Northeast District is sponsoring State Policy & Payment Forum Scholarships this year!

The Northeast District is awarding up to (2)-\$500 scholarships to attend the 2016 APTA State Policy and Payment Forum scheduled for September 17-18, 2016 (Pittsburgh, PA). This event is designed to increase involvement and knowledge of state legislative issues that have an impact on the practice and payment of physical therapy, and to improve advocacy efforts at the state level. It is an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and other professionals from across the country and listen to influential public policy makers and physical therapy advocates. **This event is open to anyone interested in state-level advocacy and students are welcome to apply.** The scholarship money may be used for registration and travel/accommodation expenses. (Click here for info: <http://www.apta.org/StateForum/>) Interested NED members must submit a letter defining their interest and the value of attending this event and submitted electronically to lbrogan@misericordia.edu, by May 31st. Submissions will be evaluated by Officers of the NED PPTA and selected awardees will be announced and contacted by June 1st 2016. ******Please note - Scholarship winners will be required to present a brief overview of this event at the October NED meeting in October 11, 2016 at St. Luke's in Stroudsburg.***

Northeast District PPTA Officer Elections for 2016 : Your Time is NOW!

Two Officer positions will be opening on December 31, 2016! No experience necessary. Each Officer role does require a 2 year commitment and the outgoing Officers will guide you in early 2017, so that you will be able to take on your Officer role with confidence. Nominees and election will be announced online this Summer 2016. Look for your Chapter PPTA email alert.

If you are interested, please contact Kay Malek (Nominating Committee Chair) at : melanie.malek@desales.edu

The Officer positions that will be vacant December 31, 2016 are:

Treasurer DUTIES:

- have charge of all funds
- responsible for paying all routine expenses of the District
- **non-routine expenses shall be paid only upon approval of the Executive Committee of the District
- keep accurate account of all receipts and disbursements of the District
- submit financial report at each District meeting and also submit an annual report to the Executive Committee
- present accounts for audit at the request of the District Executive Committee
- submit annual expenses to Chapter Office

Secretary DUTIES:

- keep a record of all meetings of the District and District Executive Committee
- maintain records and carry on official correspondence of the District
- provide written notice of all meetings of the District
- coordinate, prepare, and distribute all meetings of the District
- maintain an accurate roster of the liaisons and committee chairpersons of the District
- be custodian of the records, books, and papers belonging to the District and the District's ByLaws
- submit minutes and copies of important correspondence to the Chapter Office within 60 days of occurrence

NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH POSITION, WHICH ONE IS YOU BEST FIT???? Email Kay to-day!

*****PPTA is looking for individuals with interests in these THREE categories!!!!*****

Northeast District Members, now is the time to see if YOU are a Chapter Match?!?!

1. You're a Physical Therapy (academic/clinical) Professional and actively pursuing research funding?!?

The PPTA Practice and Research Committee is excited to work with you on your research project! All submissions are equally considered. Current focus areas for research include, Dry Needling and Direct Access, then you need to apply TODAY! There are no limitation or date restrictions for submission of your research idea/grant request. If you are interested in applying for grant funding, please refer to the following link, and download your grant request. Directions for submission are included in this link: <http://ppta.org/Committees/Archived/Research/ResearchAwardGrantDocuments.aspx>

2. Innovations in Physical Therapy, Wellness/Preventative Services!

The Northeast District would love to learn what facilities or practices are developing preventative services in the field of Physical Therapy. If your facility would like to share innovations in wellness/preventative services for clients in need, please provide a submission on our Northeast District page, on ppta.org. We would love to learn about this developing practice area! Is your program cash based or insurance driven? Refer to this link to share information regarding your wellness/preventative service model. We would love to hear your thoughts on a Wellness/Preventive Service model for appropriate patients. ALL submissions are confidential and no personal information is shared. Please refer to the following link for wellness/preventative service model submissions: <http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>

3.Thinking about joining the Northeast District or Chapter PPTA team???

If you are thinking about volunteering or 'getting your feet wet' with Chapter or District organization activities and events, visit this page on ppta.org: **Volunteer List** <http://ppta.org/Home/ppta-volunteer-page>
Don't be afraid....we are willing to show you the ropes and help you start your journey toward PPTA involvement. Let us know what you are interested in and we will get you started! This is a great membership organization and we welcome members who would like to be part of the action! So...what are you waiting for???

You can receive email or text notifications of upcoming meetings by visiting this page: <http://ppta.org/Districts/Northeast.aspx>

[Submit your response in the box on the top right corner of the page.](#)

As always, the Northeast District PPTA Thanks YOU for being involved in your professional organization, our profession depends on it!



SOUTHCENTRAL

By Penny Samuelson, District Director

The Southcentral District was pleased to discover that their first effort to hold a mini-conference was successful with over 60 attendees. We appreciate the efforts of all those concerned to help us support the PT Advocacy fund. Maria Poppe, our program chairperson, was a key person in this effort and has already started to identify our fall programming starting on September 20 with "The Role of Footwear and Orthoses on the Foot and Ankle" presented by Brian Cardin, PT C.Ped at the Appalachian Running Company in Carlisle. District PPTA members; watch your mailboxes in late summer for the annual colorful schedule. Remember you can also find it on the PPTA web page.

This year will represent a change in leadership as most of current leaders have hit their term limits. Our thanks to all of them and our best wishes to those who win this summer's elections. Make sure to participate in the electronic voting.

Mark your calendars for the annual conference in Lancaster. The program schedule is excellent and we hope to see all of you at the annual meeting to assure a quorum for some important votes.

SOUTHEAST

By Bob Wellmon, District Director

The Southeast District (SED) had a very successful year supporting the professional development needs of members and non-members living in the district. **Colleen Bradley, PT, DPT** and the Program Committee, which includes **Chris Carroll, PT, DPT** and **Eric Folkins, PT, DPT, OCS**, put together an educational calendar that allowed over 600 practicing professionals in the region to receive one or more CEUs at district-hosted events. SED members were the featured speakers at all educational events. The programming highlights the SED's committed to advocating for and fulfilling the professional development needs of physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and students living in the district.

In April, the **4th Annual SED Mini-CSM** had over 275 in attendance and 18 district members shared their clinical expertise by presenting 12 educational sessions. The event also featured 10 poster presentations that highlighted the research and clinical work of local clinicians, faculty and students. **Mary Sinnott, PT, DPT, MEd** was the keynote speaker and discussed autonomy and the need for interprofessional collaboration as it relates to the evolution of the profession. Dr. Sinnott reminded the audience of the need to demonstrate the value of physical therapy and highlighted the importance of professional autonomy by physical therapists in defining practice. Those in attendance receive up to five CEUs for their participation.

Registration fees from students, physical therapists and physical therapy assistants in the region, and the support of vendors attending the conference, allowed the SED to donate almost \$15,000 to PPTA. The funds will be used to advocate for physical therapy in the state around issues related to scope of practice and reimbursement. The team responsible for organizing and running the event includes: **Sara Tomaszewski, PT, DPT, OCS; Cindy Norris, PT; Sarah Wenger, PT, DPT, OCS; Chris Carroll, PT, DPT; Scott Voshell, PT, DPT, MSc, OCS; Colleen Bradley, PT, DPT; Alex Haddad, PT, PhD, OCS; and, Beth Hollinger, PT, DPT.** A big thank you also goes out to **Thomas Jefferson University** and **Sue Wainwright, PT, PhD** who have graciously hosted the event each year and allowed us to have access to the wonderful facilities.

The May District Meeting featured PPTA Chief Delegate **Robin Dole, PT, DPT, EdD, PCS**, who facilitated a spirited discussion among those in the audience of Motions being consider in the upcoming APTA House of Delegates. Licensed professionals and students from Thomas Jefferson University and Arcadia University had to opportunity to network and exchange perspectives on policy issues that have the potential to affect the profession and physical therapists practice.

Get Ready to DOOP DOOP DOOP da da DOOP DOOP DOOP!



There is one, can't miss event remaining on the SED calendar – the Annual PPTA PAC Fundraiser. Last summer marked the debut of a new event held at the Philadelphia Union Professional Soccer Stadium. The Philadelphia Union is an American professional soccer team based in Chester, Pennsylvania, that competes in Major League Soccer (MLS) in the Eastern Conference. In 2015, foody **Sarah Wenger** and **Sara Tomaszewski** put together a wonderful family friendly and fun event that featured pre-game tailgating. The highlight of the evening was watching the game on a warm summer evening. The 2016 event is planned for late summer, so please mark your calendars and get ready to DOOP at PPL Park!

WESTCENTRAL

By Kara Kobal, District Director

The West Central District would like to thank members and non-members for attending events and supporting the district. We were pleased with the attendance at our continuing education course on Instrumented Assisted Soft Tissue Mobilization and we look forward to offering additional full day courses in the future. Please look forward to our upcoming Fall events including free continuing education from area physicians as well as ethics/ law topics. We look forward to seeing you at our PT Month celebration and 5K race fundraiser! You can find information about our upcoming events on our web page at <http://ppta.org/Districts/WestCentral.aspx>. Don't forget to like us on Facebook (PPTA- West Central District)! Have a happy and healthy summer!

COMMITTEE NEWS

AWARDS

By Kara Kobal, Chair

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PPTA AWARDS!

The Awards Committee is currently soliciting nominations for the following Awards:

PPTA Awards

Carlin-Michels Achievement Award
Service Award
J. Kent Culley Fellowship Award
Steven Kolumban Outstanding PTA Award
CTI Humanitarian Award

Nomination instructions for these awards can be found in greater detail on the Awards Committee web page and will require letters of recommendation and nominees' CV/resume.

SIG Awards

The Special Interest Groups are also seeking nominees for the: Acute Care SIG Award, Geriatric SIG Award, Neurology SIG Award, Pediatric SIG Award and Private Practice SIG Award. Nomination instructions for these awards can be found in greater detail on the SIG web page and will require letters of recommendation.

Student Awards

The Membership Committee is also seeking nominations for Student Awards. Nomination instructions can be found in greater detail on the Awards Committee web page.

Nomination Instructions

Specific award criteria and nomination instructions can be found on the Awards Committee webpage at <http://ppta.org/Committees/Awards.aspx>. Award packets/letters of recommendation should be sent to **Kim Annibali (kannabali@ppta.org), Executive Director, PPTA, 4646 Smith Street, Harrisburg, PA 17109**. All nominations are **due no later than June 30, 2016 at 5:00PM**.

All awards will be presented at the start of the **Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at 4:45 pm at The Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square in Lancaster, PA**.

The Awards Criteria can be found on www.ppta.org under Committees, then Awards or on the Special Interest Group (SIG) specific web sites.

The Awards Committee looks forward to receiving your nominations!

MEMBERSHIP

By Susan Kreinbrook, Chair

2016 Deadline is June 30 2016! Get your application in today!

All applications are online this year! www.ppta.org

STUDENT AWARDS:

There are 2 Student Awards run by the membership Committee for students attending schools in the state of Pennsylvania.

Both rewards require APTA membership.

DR. TOM STEWART AWARD

The scholarship is to fund a student PT who is in their last year of school to attend the PPTA Annual Conference. This award includes hotel stay for 2 nights, conference registration, admission to the PT-PAC fundraiser, and acknowledgment with framed certificate, which will be presented at the PPTA Annual Membership Meeting during the conference.

*Students need to apply online and include a paragraph to describe why this would be a valuable experience for them.

Dr. Tom Stewart Application

PPTA STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award acknowledges a student who has already shown that they are on the path towards an active contribution to the APTA on a local, state, or national level as they transition to a professional member of the Association.

PPTA Student Leadership Award Application

The winning recipients are chosen based on the merits:

1. APTA Involvement
2. Leadership
3. Community Involvement as well as a personal statement and sponsor letter information.

A framed certificate, leadership pin, and first year APTA career starter dues* fully paid by the PPTA membership committee (*PA Chapter dues still to be paid by Student Leadership Award winner) will be presented to the recipient(s) and their respective school(s) during the PPTA Annual Membership meeting at the PPTA conference

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

ACUTE CARE

By Derek Zaleski and Melissa Lesser, Co-Chairs

We hope you all are enjoying your spring! The Acute Care Special Interest group would like to make you aware of some important acute care related information and acute care related events happening the rest of the year. A couple of very important guidelines and changes in practice models were recently introduced. First, the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association published the first even inter-professional guidelines for stroke management. Please refer to the following link for the specific recommendations: <http://www.apta.org/PTinMotion/News/2016/5/10/StrokeRehabPracticeGuidelines/>

Secondly, the APTA recently put out a statement about the new comprehensive joint replacement model, which affects therapist practicing throughout the entire continuum of care. Please refer to the APTA link for the complete statement: <http://www.apta.org/CJR/>

The following conferences will be held this year, please refer the links for more details:

PPTA Annual Conference

October 28-30th, 2016

Lancaster, PA

Abstract deadline: July 5, 2016

<http://www.ppta.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/2016-ppta-annual-conference>

APTA Combined Sections Meeting

February 15-18, 2017

San Antonio, TX

Abstract deadline: June 22, 2016

<http://www.apta.org/CSM/Submissions/>

5th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Conference

November 3-5 2016

Baltimore, MD

Abstract deadline: June 30th

<http://www.hopkinscme.edu/CourseDetail.aspx/80039445>

As always, please send any continuing education ideas to Mellissa or me. We plan on inviting William Pino PT, DPT and Joe Borst, PT, DPT to conduct an online webinar about the mobility of patients in the neurological intensive care unit. We will apply for continuing education hours and will send out an official invitation once the presentation is finalized.

Lastly, please nominate an acute care therapist for the acute care special interest award. E-mail reminders will be regularly sent out in the upcoming weeks.

NEUROLOGIC

By Valerie Shuman, Secretary

Happy Summer, everyone!

We hope everyone is enjoying these rainy days that hold the promise of green things everywhere! There continues to be a lot happening this quarter with the Neuro SIG and we welcome you to be a part of everything. We aim to provide additional continuing education opportunities to members, information regarding current practice issues, and opportunities for all members to contribute to our community of therapists interested in neurological PT practice. We encourage you to contact the SIG at schwartzs@upmc.edu if there is information you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter.

Call for Member Participation:

Do you have an article review, presentation, or research you would like to share? We would love for you to contact us and share your information with the SIG! As each SIG moves forward with plans to increase continuing education opportunities, we are looking to our membership to share their knowledge. Please contact Sara Hershberger schwartzs@upmc.edu to pursue this opportunity.

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PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS

By Doug Slick, Chair

Phillies with back-to-back series sweeps as I write this in early May. First time we've done that since 2012! Dare we begin to again dream of a playoff-level team in The City of Brotherly Love?

As the Phils roll through the summer, I need to bring a very important issue to your attention once again. At the membership meeting in Lancaster on Saturday, October 29 at 4:45, the PTA SIG will have a motion before the membership to permit PTAs in the PPTA to have a full vote on matters before the chapter. It became necessary to place this on the agenda again as we didn't have a quorum at last fall's meeting, therefore we couldn't act on the voting results

The current bylaws of PPTA don't specifically address this issue, but simply state the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania chapter will insure any amendments conform to APTA bylaws. Previous to the 2015 House of Delegates, this meant PTAs had a one-half vote because that language was included in the APTA bylaws.

Specifically, we will be voting on the following wording to amend the current PPTA bylaw section regarding the rights and privileges of members to include:

All Physical Therapist, Retired Physical Therapist, Life Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Retired Physical Therapist Assistant, Life Physical Therapist Assistant shall have 1 vote within the chapter.

The APTA Parliamentarian has approved this wording.

I would like to offer a quick recap on how we got here. In 2012, the PTA Caucus of the APTA developed the following six goals in an effort to move the caucus forward.

- Expansion of PTA entry-level education

- Expansion of post entry-level education and specialization to include designation

- Active participation in governance at all levels.

- Promotion and protection of payment for PTA services

- Expansion of scope of work

The APTA Board of Directors charged president Paul Rockar to appoint a PTA board work-group, consisting of four PTAs, four board members and two APTA staff members. The work-group was, in turn, charged with examining these goals and returning to the board with specific suggestions on how to address them.

In 2014, the work-group presented their recommendations to the board of directors. At that time, the board developed seven motions, three of which were bylaw changes. At the 2015 House of Delegates, one of those bylaw changes was approved. The approved motion allows components (chapters, sections and the student assembly) the option to change their bylaws to grant PTAs a full vote. This was one of the actions that grew from the original PTA Caucus goal of increasing active participation in governance by PTAs.

Discussion around the APTA decision focused on increasing inclusion of the PTA in the association, and the value of diversity of opinion. An advantage considered was the increased engagement of PTA members that would be engendered by being fully involved in the decision-making process of the association.

It is hoped that increasing opportunities for components to more fully engage PTA members could result in a more fully integrated and cohesive organization, potentially reducing the sense of conflicting priorities among membership categories.

I have written on this subject in previous newsletters. One of the points I've brought to your attention is that both speech and occupation therapy organizations have members holding different degrees who all vote equally. I also discussed the way our American mindset of striving to award equality to everyone in our society affects the negative way a one-half vote is perceived.

Please take these points into consideration when you cast your vote at the fall conference. You must attend the meeting to vote, so I am appealing to all members to make arrangements now. The conference runs from October 28 through October 30 and registrants will receive a ticket for the membership meeting. You do not have to pay for the conference in order to attend the Saturday meeting, but you do have to produce proof of membership.

Here is the "Save the Date" link for the conference. It's a great opportunity to achieve required CEUs and network with energetic PTs/PTAs:

<http://www.ppta.org/News/FullStory/2016/02/28/save-the-date....ppta-annual-conference!!>

The full vote has been granted to PTAs in 22 chapters and six sections. Fifteen chapters plus PA have yet to hold a vote on this issue. Two sections have yet to address this matter. One chapter requires a year's notice for bylaw changes. New Mexico fell short by two votes, and is being contested as the deciding two ballots are not properly completed. Who remembers hanging chads? Colorado fell short of the minimum eballot participation by 0.147%. I'm not kidding! In either of these failing scenarios, a "yes" vote, along with a friend, would have made the difference. Let's not have such a situation occur in PA!

Please plan to attend the meeting and/or the full conference to cast a vote in favor of inclusion within PPTA.

Ethics and Social Media: They Aren't Mutually Exclusive!

By: Pam Pologruto, PT
Member, PPTA Ethics Committee
In collaboration with Mary Ann Wharton, PT, MS
Chair, PPTA Ethics Committee

Social media can be a powerful way to communicate with patients/clients and the public. APTA recognizes the value of providing evidence-based information about the profession and the movement system through social media and uses a variety of sites including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube channels. Many hospitals, physical therapy practices, and individual physical therapy practitioners recognize the benefit of providing information through professional sites as well. As PTs and PTAs engage in use of social media for professional and personal use, it is imperative that they are aware of ways social media can impact their careers, both positively and negatively. Whether on professional or personal sites, therapists who use social media must adhere to the highest standards of professionalism when providing and sharing information. They must recognize that the inherent worth in using social media is to convey accurate, timely, and meaningful information that meets the expectations and needs of patients while maintaining patient privacy and confidentiality. Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants alike must also recognize that use of social media in healthcare presents potential risks and ramifications. This can be seen when professional use violates inherent patient rights, or when personal use paints a picture of the therapist that is less than professional. Therefore, it is imperative that healthcare professionals remain cognizant of their professional and ethical obligations while engaging in social media to protect their professional image and the public.

The APTA has resources available to assist PTs and PTAs with navigating social media. APTA's *"Standard of Conduct in Use of Social Media"*¹ states that PTs, PTAs and physical therapy students are obligated to adhere to the *Code of Ethics* for the Physical Therapist and the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant* while engaging in social media. Principles/Standards of the Code and Standards applying to the usage of social media include Principle/Standard #4 which states that PTs and PTAs shall demonstrate integrity in their relationships with the patients/clients, families, colleagues, students, research participants, other health care providers, employers, payers and the public. Principle/Standard 4A further states that PTs and PTAs shall provide truthful, accurate and relevant information and shall not make misleading representations.^{2,3} This ethical obligation applies to posting information on social media platforms. Health information posted on sites should be accurate, quality information that is not misleading to the public. Additionally, PTs and PTAs should consider the blurring of personal and professional lives. Postings to a personal social media profile can be viewed by others as professional opinions.

The APTA document, *“Succeeding (and Protecting Yourself) in Social Media”*⁴ discusses that despite the use of disclaimers, even personal posts can still be interpreted as representing your professional opinion and/or the opinion of an affiliated party or place of employment. Therefore, PTs and PTAs should clearly state whether they are speaking for themselves or for another party (employer, APTA, etc) in order to avoid misrepresentation. In the article, *“Professionalism in a Digital Age”* Gagnon et al reported⁵ that health care providers are encouraged to “practice professionalism online as they would offline” in all personal and professional social media platforms. The creation of separate personal and professional accounts does not create clear boundaries. “Professionals should consider that the increasing accessibility and “searchability” of the Internet limit the ability to compartmentalize a person’s public and personal online presence.”⁵

Social media can also create situations which would apply to Principle/Standard 2 which states the ethical obligation to protect patient confidential information.^{2,3} With the extensive outreaching of social networks, information that may not intentionally reveal a patient’s identity can be used to discover the patient’s identity and in return threaten the patient’s privacy. Also, Principle/Standard 1 may apply to certain scenarios involving social media. This Principle/Standard states the PT/PTA shall respect the inherent dignity and rights of all individuals and shall act in a respectful manner toward each person.^{2,3} Social media should not be used to discuss patients, colleagues or others in a disparaging manner. This action may be damaging to a professional reputation and decrease public confidence in the profession of physical therapy.

When using any form of social media, whether it be iPads, tablets, “apps,” e-mail, and platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter, therapists must recognize potential legal ramifications related to patient/client privacy and confidentiality. Therapists must follow acceptable legal guidelines, including those spelled out in HIPAA regulations. This is also addressed through Principle/Standard 4C, which states that PTs/PTAs should discourage misconduct by healthcare professional and report illegal or unethical acts to the appropriate authorities.^{2,3} This would include violations of privacy and other misuses of social media. This concept is also reflected in the APTA’s *Standards of Conduct for Use of Social Media*, which also recognizes that PTs and PTAs have the ethical obligation to report illegal or unethical use of social media.¹

The following are some general recommendations for therapists when using social media platforms including Facebook, or when using iPads, tablets, “apps”, or e-mail, to communicate with and educate patients and the public:

Always ask for patient permission

When using platforms or “apps”, determine what the vendor does to comply with HIPAA recommendations

Any app should be password protected and HIPAA compliant

iPads, laptops, tablets, cell phones, etc. must be sealed and secured and HIPAA compliant

Encryption is recommended for e-mail communication. Providers e-mail system should meet the security requirements of HIPAA, including an adequate level of encryption

In conclusion, social media, e-mail, “apps”, and other platforms provide therapists with powerful means to communicate valuable information to patients and the public. However, they must be used with the highest standards of professionalism that adheres to both ethical and legal standards of practice.

The PPTA Ethics Committee welcomes inquiries and remarks about social media and ethics. We also encourage members, non-members, and the public to take advantage of the consultative and educational services that the Committee provides. Additionally, we welcome comments on our publications and presentations, and encourage individuals to make recommendations for topics they would like to see addressed in the future.

PPTA Ethics Committee:

Mary Ann Wharton, PT, MS, Chair

Geraldine Grzybek, PT, GCS

Michael Fine, PT, DPT, GCS

Pamela Pologruto, PT

Ann Lowrey, PTA

References:

1. American Physical Therapy Association. Standards of Conduct in the Use of Social Media. HOD PO6-12-17-16. 2012. Available at: http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Ethics/StandardsConductSocialMedia.pdf#search=%22standards of conduct for social media use%22

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2. American Physical Therapy Association. Code of Ethics. Available at: http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/HOD/Ethics/CodeofEthics.pdf Accessed 5/6/2016

3. American Physical Therapy Association. Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant. Available at: http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/HOD/Ethics/Standards.pdf

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4. Gagnon K, Sabus C. Professionalism in a digital age: opportunities and considerations for using social media in health care. *Physical Therapy*. 2015; 95(3): 406-414.

5. American Physical Therapy Association. Succeeding (and protecting yourself) in social media. Available at: <http://www.apta.org/SocialMedia/Tips/Succeeding/> Accessed 5/6/2016.



Over 50 years old? Get Moving – Join the Transformation!

Under 50? Help us Blaze a Trail to Fewer Falls

Greetings to all physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and students! Please allow me to introduce myself: I am Susan Gerhard, PT DPT and your current PPTA liaison to the Department of Aging for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A hands on clinician, practicing for more than 25 years, I am actively collaborating with Connect PA, the volunteer pool of the PPTA, the PPTA Geriatric Special Interest Group, and the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy (AGPT) to launch a “Get Moving to Decrease Your Risk for a Fall” event.

This initiative is the brain child of Mary Ann Hoffman, PT and her many years of dedicated efforts to improve older adult’s quality of life. She has participated in the Falls Prevention Day at the Capitol and Pennsylvania American Trauma Society Association Conference **to promote the Physical Therapy Profession as a ‘first contact’ to reduce the number of fall episodes and decrease the complicating comorbidities that occur after a fall episode.** She is the trend setter moving our profession forward to transform society – one older person at a time!

I need your help to interact with **your** community. Please volunteer on the PPTA website, provide your contact information to Chapter office with “I want to help prevent fall episodes” identifier, or contact me directly at 717-497-3391 or suegerhard@gmail.com. Our kickoff event is a Go-To-Webinar lead by Jennifer Sidelinker, PT, DPT, GCS.

FALL PREVENTION: Kick Out Fall Episodes in Our Communities - Lead the Transformation!

When: **Tuesday July 26, 2016 @ 7:30 via Go-To-Webinar**, led by Jennifer Sidelinker, PT, DPT, GCS

Format: Presentation followed by open discussion and plan for follow up in communities.

Price: free

Value: PRICELESS!

September will be filled with many opportunities to connect with each other and older adults in our communities to increase movement and activity benefits to living Life! Join us and inspire older adults to Thrive, Move Forward, and Take a Stand to prevent Falls!

PAYMENT SPECIALIST NEWS

By Carole Galletta

Issues in this article:

Ongoing ACTION ITEMS

Tracking Trends

APTA Advocacy request

UM/UR Vendor complaint form

Sign up for the Reimbursement Blast list

Benefits of belonging... access to the PPTA Payment Specialist

Novitas-Solutions Inc. Local Coverage Determination LCD L35036 effective April 7, 2016

Iontophoresis (restricted diagnoses)

Ultrasound

Documentation of Time

PTA Supervision

Canalith Repositioning (restricted diagnoses)

Reconsideration Process to request changes in the LCD

Highmark Issues

4 unit limitation

Double copays

ACTION ITEMS:

Tracking Trends: Please email the PPTA Payment Specialist (csgalletta@gmail.com) if you identify a CPT code that is being denied; an ICD-10 coding issue; and/or payment denial issues that may signal a change in a payer's payment policies or medical policies. ***Your daily handling of physical therapy claims is an invaluable resource for the Payment Specialist in tracking payer trends for PT in Pennsylvania!***

As large insurers begin to merge, patient benefits, provider networks, and payment rates all are likely to change and we need to be prepared to demonstrate our concerns in concert with other affected stakeholders.

APTA suggests that members notify them at apta@advocacy.org regarding significant policy/benefit changes as they occur.

Please copy Carole Galletta csgalletta@gmail.com on communications to APTA.

*APTA wants to advocate on behalf of our membership and the profession to address issues related to the increased use of third-party administrators. To develop a cohesive strategy with viable alternatives, APTA needs to gather specific data. **If you are experiencing problems with a UM/UR vendor, complete this form, and APTA staff will contact you within 3 days to discuss the issues that have been presented.** Please do not share any information that would violate the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).*

<http://www.apta.org/Payment/PrivateInsurance/TPAUtilizationMgmtReview/FeedbackForm/>

MEMBER BENEFIT! Keeping up with Regulation and Reimbursement Issues

The PA Chapter of the APTA offers members a direct and timely way to receive reimbursement and regulation information. If you are a member and would like to be on the Reimbursement Blast email list, contact Toni Annibali at the PPTA office through tanni-bali@ppta.org and request that your email address be added to the Blast list. All PTs and PTAs requesting to receive Blasts must be members of the PPTA. If you are administrative staff working with a PPTA member, just give us the member number of your colleague and you can submit your email address.

MEMBER BENEFIT! Payment Specialist

As a **PT or PTA member** of the PPTA, **you and your support staff** may contact the PPTA Payment Specialist (previously titled “Reimbursement Specialist”) for current information on reimbursement and regulatory issues or to help solve related problems. Contact information is csgalletta@gmail.com or 412.266.8717. **If you email, please include your name and member number. If you are a non PT or PTA support staff member, please include the PPTA member’s name and number that you work with in the message, and always complete the subject line with the topic of your question.**

Novitas-Solutions, Inc. Local Coverage Determination LCD L35036

CPT code 97033 - (Iontophoresis - to one or more areas)

Iontophoresis is the introduction into the tissues, by means of an electric current, of the ions of a chosen medication. This modality is used to reduce pain and edema caused by a local inflammatory process in soft tissue, e.g., tendonitis, bursitis.

The evidence from published, peer-reviewed **literature is insufficient** to conclude that the iontophoretic delivery of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) or corticosteroids is superior to placebo **when used for the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders**. Therefore, iontophoresis will not be covered for these indications.

Iontophoresis will be allowed for treatment of intractable, disabling primary focal hyperhidrosis (See Group 1 Diagnoses Codes) that has not been responsive to recognized standard therapy. In those allowable situations, the procedure is reportable for the time putting it on or removing or for providing instruction for use at home. Good hygiene measures, extra-strength antiperspirants (for axillary hyperhidrosis), and topical aluminum chloride should initially be tried.

Group 1 Diagnosis Codes include L74.510 - L74.513 - Primary focal hyperhidrosis, axilla - Primary focal hyperhidrosis, soles **L74.519** Primary focal hyperhidrosis, unspecified

CPT code 97035 (ultrasound therapy):

It is considered reasonable and necessary that ultrasound may be pulsed or continuous width; and for it to be used in conjunction with therapeutic procedures, not as an isolated treatment.

Phonophoresis (the use of ultrasound to enhance the delivery of topically applied drugs) will be reimbursed as ultrasound therapy. Separate payment will not be made for the contact medium or drugs.

If no objective or subjective improvement is noted after 6 treatments, a change in treatment plan (alternative strategies) should be implemented or documentation should support the need for continued use of ultrasound. **Documentation must clearly support the need for ultrasound more than 12 visits.**

Supportive Documentation Requirements (required at least every 10 visits) for Ultrasound Therapy:

- Area(s) being treated
 - Frequency and intensity of ultrasound
 - Objective clinical findings such as measurements of range of motion and functional limitations to support the need for ultrasound
 - Subjective findings to include pain ratings, pain location, effect on function

Documentation requirements for time: The APTA plans to communicate with Novitas and request a technical correction of this requirement as it is not consistent with CMS regulations. I will provide updates as they are available. If a technical correction cannot be achieved, a reconsideration request will be submitted regarding documentation requirements for time.

L35036 requires: "For any timed services, the time (in unrounded minutes) for each timed service and total amount of time must be documented in the medical record."

This requirement is inconsistent with CMS Pub 100-02 Ch 15 Section 220: "The amount of time for each specific intervention/modality provided to the patient may also be recorded voluntarily, ***but contractors shall not require it***, as it is indicated in the billing. The billing and the total timed code treatment minutes must be consistent."

Direct supervision of PTAs: The APTA has requested a technical correction of this requirement as it is not consistent with CMS regulations. I will provide updates as they are available. If a technical correction cannot be achieved, a reconsideration request will be submitted regarding PTA supervision.

L35036 states: Medicare covers therapy services personally performed only by one of the following: Licensed therapy professionals: licensed physical therapists and occupational therapists; Licensed physical therapy assistants (PTA) **when supervised directly by a licensed physical therapist.**

This requirement is inconsistent with CMS Pub 100-02 Ch. 15. 230.1 - Practice of Physical Therapy C. Services of Physical Therapy Support Personnel

“A physical therapist must supervise PTAs. The level and frequency of supervision differs by setting (and by state or local law). **General supervision is required for PTAs in all settings except private practice (which requires direct supervision) unless state practice requirements are more stringent,** in which case state or local requirements must be followed. See specific settings for details. For example, in clinics, rehabilitation agencies, and public health agencies, 42CFR485.713 indicates that when a PTA provides services, either on or off the organization’s premises, those services are supervised by a qualified physical therapist who makes an onsite supervisory visit at least once every 30 days or more frequently if required by state or local laws or regulation.”

CPT 95992 Canalith Repositioning

Novitas LCD L35036 restricts use of 95992 to the following Diagnoses:

- H81.11 Benign paroxysmal vertigo, right ear
- H81.12 Benign paroxysmal vertigo, left ear
- H81.13 Benign paroxysmal vertigo, bilateral

Reconsideration Process: The Local Coverage Determination (LCD) Reconsideration Process is a mechanism for interested parties to request a revision to an LCD. The process is available only for final LCDs. The whole LCD or any provision of the LCD may be reconsidered. If you wish to request a reconsideration of the LCD policies that are inconsistent with CMS regulations (PTA supervision, documentation of time) or other changes in the LCD (limitation on diagnoses for iontophoresis, ultrasound) you may do so by following the instructions outlined in the link below. http://www.novitas-solutions.com/webcenter/portal/MedicareJH/page/pagebyid?contentId=00024944&_adf.ctrl-state=11xak44wo2_209&_afLoop=910296823359062#!%40%40%3F_afLoop%3D910296823359062%26contentId%3D00024944%26_adf.ctrl-state%3Dgawdqzf01_1045

If you have any additional questions regarding the reconsideration process, you can contact the Novitas Solutions Inc office, Provider Contact Center: [\(877\) 235-8073](tel:8772358073)

Highmark Issues: *There are multiple Highmark issues that the PPTA has been attempting to address with the PA Insurance Department and the PA Department of Health, including separate OT authorization when CPT 97530 is billed by a PT; rate adjustments with insufficient notice; requests for payback of HP/CP payments because their internal processes didn't properly deny payment when claims were submitted; insufficient notice of changes in payment policies (e.g. no effective date provided for the timed therapy code change published in January 2015); and denial of claims with more than 4 units, when the Highmark Special Bulletin published 12/17/12.*

Highmark Issues: 4 unit limitation Y-1 policy/special bulletin

In the fall of 2012, PPTA leadership challenged Highmark's Y-1 Medical Policy language because it introduced the concept of denying any treatment in excess of 4 units as being "not medically necessary." The outcome of that challenge was the publication of a **Special Bulletin** that stated *"Effective with dates of service on or after Dec. 17, 2012, Highmark will modify its Commercial Medical Policy (Y-1, Y-2 and Y-9) to allow for retrospective review of claims that include more than four modalities/units per visit. This means that, for dates of service on or after Dec. 17, 2012, initial claims for physical medicine visits that include more than four modalities/units will process and be paid in a timely manner."*

To date, the Y-1 Medical Policy *has not been updated to include this language*, and Highmark is stating that the current Y-1 policy, that limits billing to 4 units, supersedes the Special Bulletin language. PPTA is pursuing this issue and will provide an update as information is available.

The PPTA encourages you to communicate with your state Senators and Representatives regarding the numerous issues that interfere with your patients, their constituents, accessing and maximizing the potential functional gains from their Highmark Physical Medicine benefit. Talking points are available on the PPTA website in the members only Payment Section.

Double copays? Act 39 Fairness in Copay (signed into law as Act 39 July 31, 2015)

The law specifically prohibits a health insurance policy that is delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, extended or modified in this Commonwealth by a health care insurer from subjecting an insured to more than one copayment per visit or from depleting more than one visit for services provided by a licensed physical therapist, chiropractor or occupational therapist provider on a given date. **If a health insurer charges a double copay or deletes more than one visit for treatment by one provider, please contact the PPTA Payment Specialist csgalletta@gmail.com** Note: Act 39 does not apply to self-insured plans because they are federally regulated and exempt from state law by ERISA.

Please contact the PPTA Payment Specialist at csgalletta@gmail.com with questions regarding any information provided in this newsletter article.

SCHOOL NEWS

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY

Kate Mangione, PT, PhD, FAPTA Named Professor of the Year

Generally regarded as the most prestigious recognition that an Arcadia faculty member can receive, the Professor of the Year award reflects outstanding performance and achievements in teaching, scholarly research, and university service. Dr. Mangione's innovative teaching style, scholarship in the physical therapy field, selfless contributions to the university community, and commitment to mentoring students will be recognized at Arcadia's Graduate Commencement ceremony on May 19.

Students Travel for Pro Bono Experiential Learning

Arcadia students continue to travel the world in pursuit of knowledge and clinical experience. This upcoming fall, 27 students will travel to the countries of Peru, Guatemala, Jamaica, and our newest experiential learning destination, Belize.

Sawyer Receives Inter-professional Grant

Dr. Karen Sawyer was awarded a \$25,000 grant from Arcadia University's College of Health Sciences to investigate health and education needs in Ambergris Caye, Belize, to develop a collaborative partnership with local medical and educational professionals, and to provide services through an international inter-professional education experience for Arcadia University graduate students. Students from Arcadia's Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Genetic Counseling, and Public Health departments will take the first trip to Belize this August.

Annual Movement Camp June 2016

Arcadia PT's Movement Camp, organized by Dr. Janet Readinger and Dr. Kristin von Nieda, will take place for the 3rd time this June! The weeklong intensive exercise program serves as a place to improve coordination, balance, gait, and mobility in people with multiple sclerosis or Parkinson Disease. Participants from the Dan Aaron Stay Fit Program will join research students, faculty members, and student volunteers in dancing, boxing, and other activities. Movement Camp also provides students with the opportunity to practice clinical skills and patient interaction by working one-on-one with the camp's participants.

Health Policy and Practice Management Faculty Institute, August 12-13, 2016

Faculty who teach health policy and practice management content will find this an invaluable resource. Dianne Jewell, Laurie Hack, and Debbie Miller will bring real-life expertise to help faculty in choosing content and designing teaching and learning activities that provide students the necessary competence in these vital areas of practice. The Institute will be held at Arcadia University. Check this link for registration information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-policy-and-practice-management-faculty-institute-registration-24848311970>

Faculty Symposium Course, October 15, 2016

Dr. Kate Mangione will coordinate Arcadia PT's second annual Faculty Symposium: *"Rehabilitation of Older adults: Consensus and Controversies."* The course will explore current advances, primary research findings, and evidence-based approaches to patients with TKA, balance & strength disorders, frailty, and dementia. Speakers include premier faculty from multiple institutions. Look for the upcoming registration in the mail and on the web.

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Carol Oatis published her newest textbook:

Oatis CA, Kinesiology: Mechanics and Pathomechanics of Human Movement. 3rd Ed. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, publication date: 2016.

Dr. Oatis also presented at a conference in Naples, Italy, where she was invited to speak on the topic of "Stiffness" quale ruolo nel Sistema de Movimento?" (Stiffness and its Role in the Movement System) Sinergia & Sviluppo srl, Nov. 21, 2015.



CCAC-BOYCE CAMPUS

Congratulations to the 21 students who comprise the Class of 2016. Graduation was held on Thursday, May 19th at the Petersen Event Center.

The Student Physical Therapy Association (SPTA) collected 23,225 nutritional units of food and was the recipient of the William D. Boyce Scouting for Food Award for 2016 for the 18th consecutive year. The award is given to the student organization that collects the most units. The SPTA has collected 190,513 units of food over the past 18 years.

The SPTA also received the Boyce Campus Academic Growth Award for the six (6) educational events held during the 2015 – 2016 academic year. The educational events included 5 second year students volunteering at the PPTA Annual Conference in Seven Springs, PA in October, hosting the PPTA Reimbursement and Regulations Update in November at Boyce Campus for local PTs and PTAs, hosting the 19th Annual Alumni Poster Night in November showcasing the Class of 2016's poster presentations, hosting the 7th Annual OTA & PTA Job Fair in conjunction with CCAC/Boyce Campus Career Service for current students and graduates of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program and the Physical Therapist Assistant Program in March, hosting the 16th Annual Physical Therapist Assistant Licensure Examination Review Course for the graduating Class of 2016 as well as other students in the area, and 2 students volunteering at the 8th Annual Mini Combined Sections Meeting in April.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program had 8 out of 49, or 16%, of the students named to the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Congratulations to the six Level 2 students (Glenn Bush, Ashley Santavy, Jessica Tomlinson, Angela White, Elizabeth Wick and Ian Wissinger) and the two Level 1 students (Danielle Mazur and Kevin Stapleton) named to the 2015-2016 Who's Who.

The Community College of Allegheny County is celebrating its 50th Anniversary throughout 2016. The PTA Class of 2016 and the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program Faculty have established the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Alumni Scholarship which will be endowed by 2018 in celebration of the PTA Program's 30th Anniversary.

DREXEL UNIVERSITY

We have a new Department Chair!

After a 5-year search for that special individual to serve as the new Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences (PTRS), we are pleased to announce that we have found one!

Glenn Williams, PT, PhD, ATC, Associate Professor will assume this role on July 1, 2016.

Dr. Williams earned his MPT at the US Army-Baylor Program in 1994 and his PhD in Biomechanics & Movement Science from University of Delaware in 2004. He previously served as a Commissioned Officer in the US Army Medical Specialist Corp, departing as a Captain. During that time he held a number of positions including Director of Research and Director of the PT Therapy Service. In 2003, Dr. Williams began his academic career at the University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine. He rose through the ranks earning tenure in 2012.

Dr. Williams was awarded funding from the Foundation for Physical Therapy, a Young Scientist Award from the American Society of Biomechanics and the Hughston Award for the most outstanding paper published in the *American Journal of Sports Medicine*.

He authored, or co-authored, over 40 peer-reviewed publications and has 14 more manuscripts in preparation. Additionally, he delivered 50 peer-reviewed presentations, 35 invited lectures and authored, or co-authored, 5 book chapters. Further, he has served as the PI or Co-PI for 6 externally funded grants.

Dr. Williams' primary research interests are in neuromuscular plasticity after knee joint trauma, optimizing rehabilitation after knee injury/surgery, the influence of sleep, physical activity, and biopsychosocial factors on rehabilitation outcomes, and post-traumatic osteoarthritis of the knee.

Dr. Williams is active in the APTA and has served on a number of committees. He is also a member of the National Athletic Trainer's Association, American College of Sports Medicine and American Society of Biomechanics.

We are thrilled that Dr. Williams will be joining us!!!

Meanwhile, **Dr. Sue Smith**, Associate Dean, Research and Health Professions Graduate Education, who has also served as the Interim Chair of PTRS for the last 2-1/2 years, will transition to Interim Dean of our College on July 1.

ST. FRANCIS UNIVERSITY

Graduation Activities:

Saint Francis University PT Department was pleased to welcome **APTA President, Sharon L Dunn** as the Keynote Speaker for the DPT Class of 2016 Recognition Ceremony held on Friday, May 6. Dr. Dunn provided an inspirational speech that addressed opportunities and challenges that the newly graduated class will face as they begin their professional lives in the age of health care reform. She also presented a seminar for the class entitled, "Do What You Love and Love What You Do". This seminar provided students with incentives and strategies to facilitate ongoing engagement of new professionals in contemporary initiatives supported by APTA in light of advances in evidence-based practice and models of service delivery for physical therapy.

31 students in the Class of 2016 graduated with their Doctor of Physical Therapy degree on May 8, 2016. The following students were recognized at the PT Recognition Ceremony for special achievements during their time at Saint Francis:

Professional Excellence: Brittany Swartzwelder:

Franciscan Excellence: Nicole Leach

Academic Excellence in Graduate Studies: Nicole Leach

Joseph E. Vecchio Award: Danielle Gomola

Alumni Award: Jamie Hudy

Class Speaker: Michael Hastry

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Faculty in the department of physical therapy have been active conducting research and presenting at conferences nationally, and internationally. Currently, both tenure and non-tenure track faculty in the Department of PT collectively have funding from a total of 10 grants. In terms of upcoming presentations, Dr. Emily Keshner, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at Temple University, will be presenting two talks at a conference at the Escuela de Medicina y Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad del Rosario in Bogota Colombia on April 22-23, 2016. Dr. Liz Thompson is presenting at the 9th world congress for neurorehabilitation May 10-13 in Philadelphia, titled "Improving Walking in Individuals with Parkinson's Disease through Wearable Technology."

The PT Department at Temple University hired its newest faculty member, Dr. Christopher Thompson, DPT, PhD. Dr. Thompson completed his DPT and PhD at the University of Illinois at Chicago while working at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. At Northwestern University, he completed a Nelissen Fellowship examining the modulatory regulation of spinal circuitry following spinal cord injury and his research at Temple now focuses on assessing the spinal control of various muscles using motor unit approaches. He will also be involved in the newly formed PhD in Neuromotor Sciences.

Dr. Mary Sinnott was chosen as the Lucy Blair Service Award recipient for her exceptional value and many years of contributions to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). She recently finished her term on the APTA's board of directors for 6 consecutive years.

The PT Department has been actively promoting evidence informed management of low back pain. In March, the 2nd year Temple DPT students and Temple Pharmacy students educated patients, their families, and other health providers at a presentation at Temple University Hospital. Dr. Ojha, faculty in the Department of PT, and Dr. Milo Sowards, an orthopaedic surgeon who directs the Orthopaedic Residency Program at Temple University Medical School, are presenting a program at the 4th International Conference and Exhibition on PM&R that will be held August 24-26 titled, "Guideline adherent triage and management for low back pain: The STarT of less is more."

Temple University is being represented as one of 13 Universities participating in the CoHSTAR Health Services Research Intensive Workshop that will be held in June 30th, 2016. The Center on Health Services Training and Research (CoHSTAR) is a center formed in 2015 funded by the Foundation for Physical Therapy to advance health services and health policy research in physical therapy.

The students have also been active in community service and leadership. The North Broad Physical Therapy Center is a student-run/faculty-advised pro bono PT Center and has served approximately 30 patients since its opening in January 2016. On March 10th, Temple PT students showed their support to ALS Association, Greater Philadelphia Chapter, by volunteering at ALS Hot Chocolate Event taken place at Adventure Aquarium in Camden, New Jersey.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Department News

The Department of Physical Therapy was recently ranked **#1 in the nation**, according to the newly released 2017 rankings of U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate Programs in health specialties. Pitt shares the first place recognition with three other institutions - Delaware, USC, and Washington University.

The DPT program recently had its accreditation re-affirmed and through 2025. The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) Summary of Action included a commendation to the program based on the quality of the Self-Study Report.

Faculty News

Anthony Delitto, PhD, PT, FAPTA, former chairman of the Department of Physical Therapy, has been appointed dean of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

Delitto, who served as SHRS associate dean of research, had served as interim dean of the school since July 2015. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Pitt/UPMC Aging Institute and on steering committees of the Clinical Translational Sciences Institute and Health Services Research Data Center of the Health Policy Institute.

James J. Irrgang, PT, PhD, ATC, FAPTA, has been named to succeed Delitto as chairman of the Department of Physical Therapy. He also is vice president for education and research at the UPMC Centers for Rehab Services

Irrgang has served as professor and vice chairman of clinical outcomes research at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, and assistant dean for medical student research at the School of Medicine.

He is a Paris Distinguished Service Awardee from the American Physical Therapy Association for his exceptional contributions to the field. He served as president of the Orthopaedic Section of APTA from 2007 to 2013 and is recognized for his expertise related to clinical research, evidence-based practice and patient-reported outcomes by the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine.

The American Chiropractic Association presented Associate Professor Michael Schneider, DC, PhD, Department of Physical Therapy, with the 2016 Presidential Award.

Dr. Anthony Hamm, outgoing ACA president, bestowed the award upon Schneider at the annual conference of the Association of Chiropractic College March 18, 2016, in Orlando.

Assistant Professor Allyn Bove, PT, DPT, received a \$10,000 pilot grant from the Rehabilitation Institute to study race disparities in physical function and physical therapy utilization after total knee arthroplasty.

Student News

Fifty-four students graduated with their Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees.

The students were honored April 30, 2016, at the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Recognition Day ceremonies held at the Monroeville Convention Center.

Eighteen students were recognized for being the recipients of merit-based scholarships. In particular, the Jessie Wright Award was given to Gabrielle Plesniak, DPT Class of 2016. This award is the highest honor bestowed on a DPT student in their final year of study.

The DPT Class of 2016 also participated in the Evidence Based Practice presentations as part of its capstone project on April 28, 2016. Three distinguished guests served as discussants for the presentations: Linda E. Arslanian, PT, DPT, MS, executive director of Rehabilitation Services at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston and clinical assistant professor of physical therapy at Massachusetts General Hospital; Gerard P. Brennan, PhD, PT, senior research scientist and director of the clinical quality and outcomes research at Intermountain Healthcare's Rehabilitation Services in Utah; and Gregory Hartley, PT, DPT, GCS, CEEAA, assistant professor of clinical physical therapy at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

The University of Pittsburgh won third place in the 2015-2016 Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge and will be recognized during APTA's NEXT conference in Nashville. Pitt DPT students raised \$30,840 for the Foundation for Physical Therapy by hosting continuing education courses during the past year.

Out-going Pittsburgh-Marquette students from the DPT Class of 2017 are Margaret Acton, David Pas-trana, Bethany Trotter and Ryan Vietmeier. New student representatives from the DPT Class of 2018 are Devin Craig, Katie Dreger, Samantha Gladnick and Kayleigh Tony.

Publications

Professor G. Kelley Fitzgerald, and Assistant Professor Alexandra Gil are among the authors of a recently published paper: Fitzgerald, G.K., Childs JD, Brennan G, Talisa V, Gil AB, Neilson, BD, Abbott JH. Exercise, manual therapy and use of booster sessions in physical therapy for knee osteoarthritis; a multi-center factorial randomized clinical trial. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2016 March 10, Epub ahead of print.

Community service

The University of Pittsburgh DPT Class of 2018 is participating in the Walk to Cure Arthritis on June 4, 2016, in Pittsburgh. It is the fifth year the PT program is represented at the Arthritis Foundation's nationwide event.

UNIVERSITY OF THE SCIENCES

Department of Physical Therapy DPT 10th Anniversary Celebration and CE Program

Saturday, November 5th, 2016

Distinguished USciences faculty and alumni presenters

Contact Eric Folkins at e.folkins@usciences.edu for more information

Service Highlight:

USciences' Department of Physical Therapy participated in multiple events for the Philadelphia Science Festival. **All students in the first year of the professional DPT program** helped with events, along with faculty members **Eric Folkins, David Logerstedt, Shelly Lewis, Lora Packel, and Greg Thielman**. Events included Science Night at the Ballpark during the Phillies vs. Nationals game on May 16th. The USciences' team devised a method to measure bat speed for the ballpark crowd. Over 160 participants stepped up to the plate during the event. All the batters received a USciences' logo jumprope to encourage an active lifestyle. Students and faculty also completed physical activity screenings and taught participants about active lifestyles during Clark Park Science Day on April 23rd and during Science Carnival on the Parkway on April 30th.

Faculty Highlight:

In March the department of physical therapy added a new faculty member, **Barbara Kellar, PT, MS, DPT**. Dr. Kellar comes to USciences as an Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Clinical Education. She has 22 years of varied clinical experience, including experience in school-based, early intervention, skilled nursing, and home care settings. She is an APTA-certified clinical instructor.

Presentations:

Greg Thielman will present "Neuroplasticity Findings for Rehabilitation of the Upper Limb Post Stroke: Comparison of MRI results to Standardized Outcomes of a Randomized Controlled Pilot Study" at the IV Step International Conference of the Neurology and Pediatrics Section of Physical Therapy at The Ohio State University, July 2016.

Greg Thielman presented "Rehabilitation of the Upper Limb Post Stroke: MRI results of a Randomized Controlled Pilot Study" as a research poster at the ACRM 92nd Annual Conference, Progress in Rehabilitation Research in Dallas, TX, October 2015.

Publications:

Thielman G, Folkins E. Exercise Prescription and Dosing for Individuals with Neurological Disease. In *Evidence-Based Therapeutic Exercise Prescription for the Rehabilitation Specialist*. Editor Jason Brumitt PhD; F.A. Davis, 2016.

Duszek McArdle, K, Hyon A, **Thielman, G.** Development of a BPPV Algorithm for Earlier Physical Therapy Consultation in the Acute Care Setting: A Case Report

Journal of Acute Care PT (in press 2016)

WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Institute for Physical Therapy Education (IPTE) faculty and students have been busy during the current academic year and, in particular, the spring semester. The IPTE held its annual **MLK Day of Service** mobility and blood pressure screens on January 15th and 17th. All 1st and 2nd year students and faculty participated. One hundred and fifty-eight clients at 11 sites in Chester, PA were served.

IPTE students and faculty participated in the both the Eastern and Western Regional **PT Pro Bono Network Conferences**. The PT Pro Bono Network, <http://goo.gl/fsjYNC>, expanded this year to offer a Western Regional Conference that was hosted by the University of Utah. Seventy-one attendees from 18 programs were present for the inaugural year of the conference. The Eastern Regional Conference, held at Widener University, had 120 attendees from 29 different programs. Dr. Ira Gorman was the keynote speaker for both conferences, which provide a networking opportunity for faculty and students who participate in, run, or are interested in starting a student-run pro bono physical therapy clinic.

The 6th **Annual Run Like A Colorful Fool 5K**, sponsored and run by faculty and students in the IPTE, had over 50 runners take to the starting line. IPTE students collaborated with several Widener fraternities and sororities in running the event and enthusiastically dishing out the color to the runners. For the 2016 edition of the event, Northern Star Sports also hosted students from Stetser Elementary School for an afternoon of fun and games - <http://goo.gl/nN4xxa>. Proceeds from the event benefit the Chester Community Physical Therapy Clinic.

Dr. Ellen Erdman, the Director of Clinical Education, recently returned from Belize where she volunteered at Hillside Healthcare International, providing direct therapy services, supervising DPT students from various US-based academic institutions, and assisting in the development of rehabilitation programming, such as disability awareness in the schools. Hillside Healthcare International provides a sustainable service-learning program of medical services in models similar to that in the US for home health, ambulatory services, and community education/wellness.

Drs. Jill Black, Robin Dole, and Kerstin Palombaro and **Drs. Ellen Erdman and Sam Pierce** have collaborated on 2 recently published articles: Erdman EE, Pierce SR. "The use of hippotherapy in adolescent male s/p subacute TBI: A case study." *Pediatric Physical Therapy*, 2016, 28:109-116; and Black JD, Palombaro KM, Dole RD, Guay CM. Curricular integration and measurement of cultural competency development in a group of physical therapy students. *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*. 2015;15:82-96.

In May, **Dr. Robin Dole** and **Maureen Hugel, PT, PCS** accompanied 5 students from the Class of 2017 to Chongqing, China to perform physical therapy training at Love Manor Orphanage. IPTE students developed presentations and scripts related to sensory stimulation, progressing children through developmental milestones, and seating and positioning, and created laboratory activities. The related PowerPoint presentations were translated and the accompanying scripts recorded by a native Chinese language speaker. Students from the Class of 2017 led the laboratory activities for staff at Love Manor Orphanage. This trip is the 3rd physical therapy training held by the Institute for Physical Therapy Education at Love Manor Orphanage.

Finally, May marks the time when a new cohort of students take a big step toward becoming physical therapists. IPTE is proud of the Class of 2016, which saw 42 students participate in commencement ceremonies on May 20, 2016. From the class, **Fallon Heddings** received the Physical Therapy Faculty Award for contributions made to professional education experience, **Kyle Bauer** was recognized for Service to the Profession, 14 students were inducted into the National PT Pro Bono Honor Society having provided 90 or more hours of service, and 7 students received honors based on GPA at graduation. The next cohort of students will be starting their journey in June.



PPTA 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.PPTA.ORG

OCTOBER 28-30, 2016

**LANCASTER MARRIOTT AT PENN SQUARE,
LANCASTER, PA**

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association is a pre-approved provider of contact hours for continuing education. The PA State Board of Physical Therapy, however, has the ultimate authority to make the determination regarding whether a particular course is approved for contact hours. For example, the PA State Board of Physical Therapy guidelines currently provide that courses in practice building, office management, billing and documentation will not be accepted even when offered by a pre-approved provider. Please review at www.dos.pa.gov/physther for further clarification.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES/OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION/CONTACT HOURS

“ACO Impact on the PT Profession”

Speakers: Roshunda Drummond-Dye, JD, Michael P. Johnson, PT, PhD, OCS,
Tapan Kikani, PT, PhD

This course is Friday only.

Course Description: This course will be provided by three speakers who will share background information on ACOs, bundled payment, and alternative payment models as they have come into effect over the past few years. Roshunda Drummond-Dye, JD from the APTA will provide information on the regulatory effects of these new models, as well as the work that the APTA is doing in this area. Our other two speakers will provide information from physical therapists from Pennsylvania, shedding light on how physical therapists can get more involved in ACOs and how these new payment models are affecting care across the state. The presentations will be followed by a panel discussion that will allow the audience to ask questions, and for the speakers to interact to provide greater detail as to how physical therapists can protect themselves in this ever-changing reimbursement environment.

Course Objectives:

- Define ACOs and define the role APTA is playing in implementation and function of ACOs
- Give examples of how therapists are working within ACOs in PA
- Define alternative payment models and explain regulatory background of them
- Explain how bundled payments can and will affect care and patient's access to care
- Explain how new payment models will affect PT care and what action can be taken to be involved in the changes of the system in order to provide effective care
- Explore how to maximize use of services while decreasing costs in order to maintain business within the changing payment models

Contact Hours: TBD

"Medical Screening for the Physical Therapist – The Sherlock Holmes Approach"

Speaker: William Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHSc, FAAOMPT, FAPTA

This course is Friday-Saturday-Sunday.

Course Description: The patient you are seeing for low back, hip or neck pain; any reason to be suspicious of occult cancer or infection, or a fracture? An important element of clinical decision making for therapists is recognizing red flag warning signs that a patient should see a medical doctor. This course will help prepare the therapist to assume the role of an interdependent practitioner working within a collaborative medical model. A proposed examination scheme designed to promote efficient and effective collection of patient red flag findings will provide the structure for our discussions. Professional communication with patients and medical doctors will also be a central theme throughout the seminar. A combination of lecture, small group activities/discussion, and laboratory sessions will constitute the learning experiences.

Course Objectives:

- Compare and contrast the therapist's role and responsibilities to that of physicians associated with the differential diagnosis/medical screening process
- Integrate the medical screening principles into an efficient and effective patient examination scheme
- Evaluate history and physical examination findings (red flags), and decide whether communication with a physician is warranted regarding a patient's health status, and indications for imaging
- Employ strategies to facilitate professional communication between therapist and physician and therapist and patient; including when, how and what to communicate as part of a patient referral

- Describe the risk factors, pathogenesis and clinical manifestations of selected medical conditions and medications representing the various body systems
- Compare and contrast, vascular/neurogenic claudication, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, musculoskeletal cancer, infection, abdominal aortic aneurysm, kidney stones, related to risk factors, and signs and symptoms clinical manifestations
- Effectively pursue additional information associated with differential diagnosis by the therapist

Contact Hours:

Friday	4 evaluative contact hours
Saturday	6 evaluative contact hours
Sunday	4 evaluative contact hours

“Case-Based Physical Therapy Management of Selected Musculoskeletal Dysfunction in the Obstetric Client”

Speaker: Jill Boissonnault, PT, PhD, WCS

This course is Friday-Saturday-Sunday.

Course Description: This interactive course will concentrate on enhancing management skills of the obstetric client with particular musculoskeletal dysfunctions. The course will be case-based and will cover the diagnoses of pelvic girdle pain (including pubic symphysis dysfunction and sacroiliac dysfunction) in pregnancy, postpartum coccydynia, prenatal thoracic spine/ribcage dysfunction, transient osteoporosis of the hip in pregnancy, and HNP during pregnancy and delivery. A look at current evidence in assessment and management of diastasis recti abdominis will also be covered. The course will focus on assessment and treatment interventions for these diagnoses and will include discussion and laboratory practice in manual techniques (e.g., muscle energy, passive accessory mobilization techniques such as Maitland Rx, mobilization with movement), exercise, belts and supports, and client education. We will review the evidence for such interventions and will include client self-management strategies.

This course is geared at an intermediate level but most content should be understood by students and novice practitioners.

Course Objectives:

- Understand and apply to patient care the pathophysiology of various obstetric musculoskeletal disorders commonly seen in this population
- Practice and apply assessment tests and measures and treatment interventions for the above-mentioned musculoskeletal dysfunction in the pregnant and postpartum client
- Develop appropriate home programs for clients with such musculoskeletal dysfunction
- Appreciate current evidence for the tests, measures, and interventions the participants discuss and practice
- Possess an awareness of selected outcome measures appropriate for these patient-diagnoses

Contact Hours:

Friday 3.25 general contact hours, .75 evaluative contact hours (total = 4)

Saturday 4.5 general contact hours, 1.5 evaluative contact hours (total = 6)

Sunday 2.5 general contact hours, 1.5 evaluative contact hours (total = 4)

Rehabilitation in MS: Promoting Functional Recovery and Neuroplasticity” (Friday/Saturday)

“Focus on Balance Retraining in MS: Comprehensive Examination and Treatment” (Sunday)

Speaker: Susan Bennett, PT, DPT, EdD, NCS, MSCS

This course is Friday-Saturday-Sunday.

Course Description: This two-part course will focus on pathology, evaluation and treatment of individuals with multiple sclerosis. The first two days of this course will focus on pathology, assessment and diagnosis, and specific tools for assessing function and treatment effectiveness. Assessment discussions will also include gait analysis and balance assessment. Treatment interventions discussed will also include orthotic use/fit, functional e-stim, and the evidence on exercise intervention in this population. Case studies will be presented for application of information to patient evaluation and treatment. Sunday’s course will focus on assessment and treatment of balance disorders related to MS. Assessment tools and outcome measures will be reviewed. We will explore all areas of balance that may be affected in the MS patient and present evidence based treatment interventions to apply to your patients.

Course Objectives:

- Describe the etiology, pathophysiology, symptom and medical management of Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Recognize the impact of MS on functional mobility and identify the underlying impairments that limit their activity and participation
- Describe the comprehensive examination and evaluation of individuals with MS and recognize the silent symptoms that may impact function
- Perform a clinical examination for gait dysfunction in MS
- Describe specific treatment interventions in rehabilitation or management of gait dysfunction in MS
- Analyze video presentations of individuals with MS performing various functional tasks and discuss appropriate interventions to promote functional recovery
- Examine the evidence supporting rehabilitation in MS and the value of exercise
- Recognize the role of task specific training in promoting cortical reorganization
- Utilize the EDGE MS database on the APTA Neurology Section website to identify specific outcome measures to use in MS

Contact Hours:

Friday 2 general contact hours, 2 evaluative contact hours (total = 4)

Saturday 4 general contact hours, 2 evaluative contact hours (total = 6)

Sunday 2 general contact hours, 2 evaluative contact hours (total = 4)

“An Introduction to TMR Tots for Torticollis”

Speaker: Susan Blum, PT

This course is Saturday and Sunday.

Course Description: In this course the participant will be the patient and experience their own improvement in mobility to gain firsthand knowledge of the TMR mechanisms, process and principles to families and caregivers to effectively treat children with postural asymmetries. The attendee will also be introduced to increasing range of motion with a pain free method, strengthening, postural control, transitions, weight shifting, pre-gait and gait training. By the end of the course the participant will be able to better identify limitations to mobility and create dialogue with caregivers to match their concerns. They will move forward with a renewed sense that they can measurably improve mobility, achieve objective improvement in functional outcomes, and teach caregivers how to directly participate in the therapeutic process through ongoing home treatment.

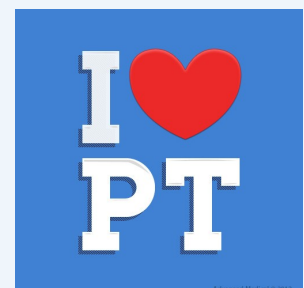
Course Objectives:

- Understand the relationship between Total Motion and Positional Release
- Perform a full body TMR evaluation
- Understand the basic TMR format to begin treatment
- Learn how to begin to use Therapeutic Positions in home programs
- Develop an understanding of TMR concepts to treat the whole child
- Experience TMR on yourself to learn to treat your own issues
- Learn effective parent friendly TMR strategies to incorporate care into daily routines for improved compliance
- Follow systematic evaluation and treatment strategies effectively Monday morning

Contact Hours:

Saturday 6 general contact hours

Sunday 4 general contact hours



ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Susan Bennett, PT, DPT, EdD, NCS, MSCS currently acts as a Clinical Professor at the University at Buffalo Department of Rehabilitation Science, Department of Neurology, and Department of Neurosurgery. She received her BS in Physical Therapy from Daemen College, MS in Health Science Education from the University of Buffalo, EdD in Health Behavioral Sciences, and DPT from Marymount University. Since 2003 she have served as the Director of the Comprehensive Care Center of the Jacobs MS Center for Treatment and Research. Here she has developed a research agenda focused on the investigation of aging in MS, and the role of Vestibular Rehabilitation and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy on reducing fatigue. She served many years in different roles for the Multiple Sclerosis Society, Western NY Northwest PA Chapter. She has co-authored many publication on research in multiple sclerosis assessment and intervention.

Susan Blum, PT, has provided pediatric PT services and consultations for over 25 years in outpatient, school and home settings. She graduated from the University of Vermont, School of Allied Health Sciences in 1975 with a major in Physical Therapy. As a physical therapist in private practice in the York Pennsylvania area, she currently provides Early Intervention services as well as treatment for children using natural learning environments. She also provides consultation with other physical therapists for children with torticollis and gait/bracing issues. Earlier in her 40 year career Susan had extensive experience treating adults with neurological, orthopedic and women's health disorders using a variety treatment techniques which she has incorporated in her approach with children. Susan is the author of the student manual for treatment of pediatric patients using Total Motion Release. She has adapted TMR treatment strategies for the pediatric population and uses this approach with all of her patients which include those with all types of pediatric issues such as developmental delays, cerebral palsy, other neuro-motor disorders, orthopedic issues, gait asymmetries and torticollis.

Jill Boissonnault, PT, PhD, WCS, holds a B.S. in Physical Therapy (University of Illinois), a Masters in Orthopedic Physical Therapy (Northwestern University), and a PhD (University of Wisconsin, Madison), in Curriculum and Instruction, minor in Women's Studies. She has been Treasurer, Vice President and Education Director of the Section on Women's Health, of the APTA, and was awarded the Section's service award, the Elizabeth Noble Award, in 2000. In 2006 Dr. Boissonnault received the WI PT Association Mentor Award and the APTA's Lucy Blair Service-Award. In 2011 she was awarded a Service Award from the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) and in 2012, a UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health Faculty and Staff Equity and Diversity Award. She was also named Northwestern University Physical Therapy Program's Distinguished Alumnus of the Year for 2013. She is past President and Founder of the International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health, a sub-group of the WCPT. She has authored numerous professional articles and textbook chapters in women's health PT. Dr. Boissonnault is a media spokesperson for the APTA and an Associate Professor at The George Washington University teaching courses in professional issues, service-learning, and women's health. She consults in the area of women's health PT and teaches continuing education seminars on musculoskeletal management of the obstetric client and pelvic floor rehabilitation.

William Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHSc, FAAOMPT, FAPTA, is Executive Vice President of Professional Affairs, APTA. Until recently, he was professor – University of Wisconsin-Madison, Senior PT – UW Hospital and Curriculum Director – UW/Meriter Hospital Orthopedic Physical Therapy Clinical Residency Program. Education: BS degree in PT – UW Madison; MS degree and DHSc – University of St. Augustine; t-DPT from IHP-Massachusetts General Hospital. Bill holds multiple adjunct physical therapy faculty positions – presenting nationally and internationally – teaching differential diagnosis, diagnostic imaging, and communication skills. He has taught in the following countries: Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland. He is the editor of the textbook – *Primary Care for the Physical Therapist: Examination and Triage*, (Elsevier Saunders 1st and 2nd edition) and past co-editor of *Pathology: Implications for the Physical Therapist I* (Saunders-1st and 2nd edition). He has multiple journal publications related to differential diagnosis and physical therapist practice.

Dr. Boissonnault is past President of the Foundation for Physical Therapy, the profession's national research fundraising organization. He was President (1995-2001) of the Orthopaedic Section of the APTA, chaired the APTA Manipulation Legislative Task Force and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists Practice Committee.

Awards/Honors – Bill has received the Orthopaedic Section, APTA's Stanley V. Paris Distinguished Service Award, the APTA Baethke-Carlin Award for Excellence in Academic Teaching; the APTA's Lucy Blair Service Award, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School Dean's Teaching Award for Excellence and Innovation in Medical Education. He has also been named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the APTA.

Roshunda Drummond-Dye, JD is Director of Regulatory Affairs in the Department of Health Finance and Quality. She is an expert in Medicare and Medicaid regulations specifically issues related to home health, skilled nursing facilities, outpatient physical therapy, and rehabilitation agencies. She also has over 10 years of experience in dealing with federal fraud and abuse laws such as Stark II and the Anti-kickback Statute. Drummond-Dye comes from the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) where she served as Senior Policy Analyst and worked on federal health care legislative and regulatory issues. Prior to joining ASTRO, Drummond-Dye served as a legislative assistant to U.S. Rep. Sonny Callahan where she worked on a range of issues including Medicare and appropriations. She received her law degree from the Southern University Law Center and completed her undergraduate work at Talladega College.

Michael P. Johnson, PT is the Practice Leader for Home Health at BAYADA Home Health Care in Moorestown, NJ. The Home Health Practice is comprised of 90 offices in 15 states that provide care to over 11,000 clients weekly through a multidisciplinary team approach delivered by over 4,000 clinicians (RN, PT, OT, SLP, MSW, HHA) and staff. The Practice leadership team has been engaged for several years with numerous Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) and Bundled Payment Care Initiatives (BPCI) partners in Pennsylvania and across the country.

Dr. Johnson has served as a member of the National Advisory Council for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, a Steering Group member for the AQA Alliance, and as a consultant on the development and testing of quality measurements for use in the Physician Quality Reporting System. He has also served in multiple elected and appointed roles within the PPTA and APTA over the past 20 years. He holds a BS in Physical Therapy from Northeastern University (Boston), an MS in Orthopedic Physical Therapy from MCP Hahnemann University (Philadelphia) and a PhD in Health Policy from the University of the Sciences (Philadelphia).

TAPAN KIKANI, PT, PhD received her BS in Physical Therapy from the University of Bombay, India and her PhD in Physiology from Thomas Jefferson University. She currently works as the Health System Innovation Officer in the Holy Redeemer Health System. In her role she has been successful in integrating Rehab Services across the healthcare continuum of acute-care, subacute, 2 nursing homes, 4-offsite outpatient centers providing adult and pediatric outpatient, Cancer, Fitness and Cardiac-Rehab programs. She functions as a chair and participant in multiple health system-wide committees for utilization review, quality and clinical initiatives. She currently works within the Holy Redeemer System investigating the utilization of services related to bundled payment systems for joint replacements.



PA PT PAC FUND RACER / PA PT PAC FUND RACER / PA PT PAC FUND RACER

Calling on the PT Community to join in the race.....

Saturday October 29th

7:30 - 10:30pm

at the Marriott in Lancaster

.....on foot.....in a SCAVENGER HUNT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

When you are in Lancaster for the PPTA Conference, join us in raising funds which will help our organization to MOVE FORWARD and TRANSFORM SOCIETY.
PT's, PTA's & Students

Bring your friends & sign up via the online conference registration:

\$35 for adults / \$20 for students / \$15 for children under 12

Payment due at the time of the event.

7:30-8:00 Assign Teams & Review Rules!

8:00-9:00 Scavenger Hunt within 3 block area around the hotel

or

Stay behind to bid on auction items, cheer on the teams & hear the updates from the race course.

9:00-10:30 Teams return & we enjoy appetizers, the cash bar (1 drink ticket included), auction drawings and prizes.

WHAT BETTER WAY TO MEET OUR COLLEAGUES!

FYI: This event takes place shortly after the Business meeting. You may want to plan a quick dinner prior to the event; or, enjoy a late dinner in the area after the festivities. Either way, we can't wait to see you in-between for lots of PT fun!

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